TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Appomattox, Virginia, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correspondence to the Times-Virginian, Appomattox, Va. Subscription rate: $2 a year, payable in advance. Single copy 5c. National advertising representative: Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc., 920 Broadway, New York City. Advertising rates upon request.

AN OLD PROBLEM, AND GETTING MORE PRESSING

Most Virginians are pleased that efforts are in the making to increase the funds available for the care of the state's mentally ill. The need at state mental hospitals has been pressing. The need is both for capital outlay and personnel.

Rise in cost of care of the mentally ill is general all over the nation. We note that the State of New York last year had an operating budget of $460,000,000 and of this sum, $164,000,000, or 36 per cent, went to the Department of Mental Hygience. To that there was added capital construction appropriations totaling $66,000,000 and payments for assistance for local mental health totaling $4,000,000. This aggregate of $234,000,000 was almost a fifth of the state's total budget of $1,259,691,351 last year: a fifth of all the money the New York taxpayers sent to Albany.

Mental health—or lack of it— is one of the growing problems in the nation. The National Mental Health Committee estimates that 9,000,000 Americans have some form of mental disorder. One out of every two hospital beds in this country is occupied by a psychiatric patient. To keep in line, Virginia will see this item in its budget go up much more than is now recommended.

However, it is no new problem. As far back as there is recorded history, there is evidence that man has had to struggle with nervous and mental illness. In 4000 B. C., Egyptian priests were treating mental disorders with kindness, soothing baths and sweet music. The ancient Mesopotamians attributed mental illness to bad influences of heavenly bodies, and to this we owe our word: "lunacy." Greek mythology contains many references to psychiatric disorders. Insanity, hysteria, etc. are described in the Bible. In 1000 B. C. Homer accurately described cases of mental disorder. In 460, Hippocrates wrote his belief that the brain was the organ of the mind and that insanity was a disturbance of this organ. And Socrates quoted a colleague as having reported that "no attempt should be made to cure the body without the soul, and therefore, if the head and body are to be well, you must begin by curing the mind." About 380 B. C., Plato advocated segregation and common-sense treatment of the insane.

According to the New York Times, one of the earliest reports of psychiatric treatment was given about 300 B. C. by Erasistratus, an Egyptian, who cured a love-sick prince. Cicero said in Rome about 60 B. C. that "melancholy was due to painful emotion." The first known hospital for mental patients was established in Byzantium in 310 A. M. About the same time, the large city hospital in Cairo opened a section for mental patients. These concepts were later carried by Arabian physicians. In the Dark Ages, demonological superstitutions and witchcraft were associated with mental disease, and the deranged were thrown into dungeons, tortured and even put to death. In 1320, in England, an act was authorized for the property of the insane to pass to the Crown. Bedlam was opened in London in 1403.

The Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia opened the first ward for mental patients in the American Colonies in 1752. Dungeons were abolished and medical schools educated students in the management of mental patients.

In recent decades, American state and local governments have improved their treatment of the mentally ill. But science has not been able to keep up with the challenge of this problem. Research has been inadequate. Much more must be done. Mental illness remains one of the great fields for advancement in treatment and care. Virginia must move forward and see that the large body of its people needing care and treatment are given the best.

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SAYS BUSINESS WILL IMPROVE

A survey by the Commerce and Industry Association of New York, Inc., has disclosed that New York City executives believe conditions will improve in the first six months of 1956.

Results of the survey, which reflected hundreds of opinions of New York City executives, show that 49.4 per cent expect business to continue at its present level and only 7.8 per cent anticipate a business decline in the first half of the year.

One thing on which the executives of the country's largest city were unanimous was in predicting increased volume in retail trade in 1956. This is probably due to higher wages and increasing population, and higher benefits being paid millions of Americans.

We think 1956 is certain to be a good year. However, in fields where a boom was experienced in 1955 the same lush conditions will not always prevail again, even though the general business level is high. Some do not, for example, see 1956 as equal to 1955 in the automotive field.

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AIR TRAVEL UP; SAFETY DOWN

The Civil Aeronautics Association reported recently that air travel was up nineteen per cent in 1955, but that the 1955 safety record was considerably down from that of 1954.

Scheduled U. S. airlines carried 42,000,000 passengers in this country and abroad in 1955, for a nineteen per cent increase and a twenty-two per cent domestic increase. The safety record, however, was estimated at .75 fatalities per 100,000,000 passenger miles. In 1954, the record was .09 fatalities per 100,000,000 passenger miles.

There were seven fatal accidents in the United States last year which claimed 156 lives, and another which claimed 39 lives, which was attributed to sabotage. Altogether, more than 200 persons were killed in domestic airline accidents in 1955 in this country.

Only one accident was experienced by U. S. airlines on international operations in 1955 and two passengers were killed.

* * * * * * * *

Fond parents who seek to live their childerns' lives usually manage to mess up everything.

* * * * * * * *

Too often habits make men instead of men making habits.

COMMUNICATION

Editor, The Times-Virginian,
Appomattox, Va.

Dear Sir,

Some months ago it was reported that several of our legislators were questioned as to what they were going to do about our increasing motor traffic death rates. They said they were not going to do anything about it. They have kept their promise and the death rate in Virginia has gone up and up and up.

We are told that the increased number of motor traffic deaths in Virginia is due to the increased traffic yet 13 states have reduced their traffic death rates and 32 have a lower death rate than Virginia. The Virginia traffic death rate is greater than the national average. With the exception of West Virginia and Kentucky, Virginia has the highest death rate of any of the states north of North Carolina and east of the Mississippi.

So far as we have statistics, Virginia, California and Michigan are the only states that have increased the number of motor traffic deaths more than 100.

When we study what is being accomplished in many of the other states in reducing motor traffic accidents we can reach only one conclusion and that is these 100 deaths and many more are useless and permitted by a government that is incompetent.

What possible excuse can a Legislature charged with the welfare of the people and elected by them give for not using every possible effort to save these lives lost uselessly.

If each individual member of the Legislature, using his own time and money, should go to the neighboring northern states to study their methods which have saved so many lives, it would not be too much.

We as citizens have become calloused and seem to think that these deaths are part of things that are to be. We are unwilling to use much effort to correct the condition. We listen to speeches at our clubs, we look at many pictures of motor traffic accidents and go home salving our conscience with the feeling that we have helped in the motor accident prevention and we have done nothing.

If we paraphrase, a state that knows of these useless killings and does not do the obvious thing to prevent them, is impotent, stupid, blind and invites disaster. We think only of personal liberty and forget the rights and liberties of those of whom the state is the sole protector.

George B. Lawson, M. D.,
Chairman of the Traffic Safety
Committee of the Roanoke Rotary Club.

VIRGINIA CHURCH ATTENDANCE MOVEMENT

Ministers, laymen and church women in Virginia are giving increased attention to the whole area of Community Evangelism. As these church workers come to realize that approximately one-half of Virginia citizens are unchurched, it is only natural for them to examine the situation in their own community and to confer together regarding plans for bringing the unchurched people under the influence of the Christian Gospel.

The World Wide Church Attendance Movement is attracting interest throughout the state of Virginia. In many communities, councils of churches and council of church women and other cooperative church agencies have developed comprehensive plans for increasing attendance at churches during the period from January to Easter.

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Chick Chats

Flock Records Help Cut Costs

As you come to the end of a year, can you accurately sum up your poultry-raising profits? You can if you maintain a good set of records. Few businesses succeed without adequate bookkeeping system. And this is very true of poultry raising. Although you don't need an elaborate system of charts, graphs, and indexes, you should maintain accurate baisc figures and see that all entries are made to the day.

Control Expenses

Daily flock records help the poultryman keep a close check on his costs. Not only does he see how much money his flock is making, but he can also visualize more easily where and how production costs can be reduced and expenses kept under control.

Poultry raisers who fail to keep records on their birds risk their profits, their flock, and their entire poultry-raising operations.

Cost of chicks and cost of feed are the two big expense items a poultryman has. They may account for 75% or more of his total costs. Other costs that must be reckoned are depreciation on buildings and equipment, interest, insurance, fuel, litter, and medication.

Mortality of the flock is another item which should be recorded. It is in this department that the poultryman is given a good opportunity to boost profits. By knowing the day-by-day mortality, he can take steps at the right time to reduce it and ward off disease outbreaks.

Egg Records

Daily egg-record sheets can be tacked to a wall in the laying house. Record this principal source of income carefully on the sheets, which usually last for a month. More permanent records should be kept in the poultryman's home office.

Record eggs sold and prices received, along with the grade of the eggs. By keeping such information, you can often turn up ways of raising your income.

Help with setting up poultry records may be obtained from government and industry sources.

Start the New Year right with well-planned, complete records.

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Stonewall

Stonewall, Jan. 16.- The farmers are having quite a time getting down their tobacco to get ready for market. So cold and dry tobacco just won't get in order.

Dr. Twyman Williams preached at Stonewall Church Sunday morning, to a good congregation.

There was a large crowd at the shower for Miss Anne Carson at the Stonewall Community Center on Saturday night. She received lots of nice useful gifts. We wish for this fine young lady much happiness in her new life.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Drinkard, Sr., of Lynchburg were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick on Wednesday of last week. The Rev. Aaron D. Smith was the supper guest in the Chick home the same day, and Mr. and Mrs. Irby Wheeler called in the same home that night.

The W. M. U. of Hebron Church will meet with Mrs. Irby Wheeler tomorrow night. Let's hope for a good attendance, as it is the first meeting of the year.

Mr. C. D. Drinkard has improved enough to be in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Tilton Lee and family visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wash Wheeler at Rustburg on Sunday. Mrs. Wheeler is on the sick list.

Miss Kathy Caldwell celebrated her 9th birthday at her home on Sunday. We wish for her many, many more happy ones to come.

Mrs. J. H. Beard and sons, Herman and George spent last Sunday in Farmville with Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Chapman and family.

The Stonewall Home Demonstration Club met at the Community Center last Thursday, with a good attendance. We had a chair bottoming demonstration, given by Mrs. B. G. Anderson. Three chairs were completed and were done so nicely.

Mrs. Parks Jennings entertained her G. A. girls at her home on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Robertson, of Spout Spring visited her brother, Lester Carson and Mrs. Carson on last Sunday. Mr. Carson is improving at his home here, with both legs broken.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick visited their sick grandson, Lawrence Beard on last Sunday. He has been sick with a cold for some time. Hope he will soon be real well again.

State Bank No. 6

Repost of Condition of "The Bank of Appomattox"

of Appomattox in the State of Virginia at the close of business on Dec. 31, 1955. Made to the State Corporation Commission.

ASSETS

1. Cash, balances with other banks, including reserve balances, and cash items in proceess of collection	564,859.32
2. United States Government obligations, direct and guaranteed	1,104,685.23
3. Obligations of States and political subdivisions	236,095.98
4. Loans and discounts (including $212.19 overdrafts)	992,890.94
5. Bank premises owned $ ....., furniture and fixtures, $2,559.46	2,559.46
6. Investments and other assets indirectly representing bank premises or other real estate	12,500.00
11. Other assets	1,072.74
12. TOTAL ASSETS	2,914,663.67

LIABILITIES

13. Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	691,305.31
14. Time deposits of individuals, partnerships and corporations	1,825,012.52
15. Deposits of United States Government (including postal savings)	2,043.07
16. Deposits of States and political subdivisions	214,057.77
18. Other deposits (certified and officers' checks, etc.)	10,108.97
19. TOTAL DEPOSITS $2,742,527.64	
23. Other liabilities	9,551.08
24. TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,752,078.72

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

25. Capital*	40,000.00
26. Surplus	60,000.00
27. Undivided Profits	62,303.18
28. Reserve for contingencies	281.77
29. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	162,584.95
30. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	2,914,663.67

*This bank's capital consists of:
Common stock with total par value of $40,000.00

MEMORANDA

31. Assets pledged or assigned to secure liabilities and for other purposes	268,021.30

I, J. C. Davidson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemly swear that the above is true, and that it fully and correctly represents the true state of the several matters herein contained and set forth, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

J. C. Davidson

State of Virginia, County of Appomattox, ss:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of January, 1956, and I hereby certify that I am not an officer or director of this bank.

Thomas B. Coleman, Notary Public
My Commission Expires June 9th, 1959.

Correct—Attest:
C. Lewis McDearmon
H. Y. Spencer
H. C. Pulliam
Directors.

Coal Industry Has Bright Future in State of Virginia

Richmond, Va., Jan. 19.- In the past seventy years Virginia's annual output of bituminous coal has grown from less than one million to about twenty million tons, proceeding steadily even in the past quarter-century, when coal production in the nation fluctuated but showed no long term growth. During 1955 Virginia mines produced an estimated 23,500,000 tons, a 9 per cent increase over 1952 production and 5 per cent of the nation's otuput for the year just past.

The high quality and ease of mining of Virginia coal coupled with the developments in the electric utility, industrial, steel and overseas markets have contributed to its increased consumption, according to a research study entitled, "Production and Marketing of Coal in Virginia and the Nation" released by the Virginia Division of Planning and Economic Development. Projection factors favor the future competitive position of coal from Southwest Virginia. The coal is easily accessible with more than 90 per cent of the output coming from drift mines in the side of the hills and the remainder from strip and augur mines. The reserves are large and the quality is high. It is estimated that the reserves in coal seams 42 inches or more in thickness would be sufficient to supply 20 millions tons of coal from Virginia annually for 50 years or longer. If the thinner seams are included, the U. S. Geological Survey reports that Virginia's reserves are sufficient to last 250 years at an annual rate of production of 20 million tons. It is clear that physical supply presents no problem in the Virginia coal mining industry. Sustained production in the next half-century depends rather on what the market for coal is to be in competition with other fuels and the possible development of nuclear and solar energy for industrial use.

Virginia has approximately 300 active mines that produce more than 1,000 tons of coal annually, although the nine largest coal companies among these produced 60 per cent of the state's bituminous output in 1953. Large mining companies can be found in Virginia operating mines with a daily capacity of 10,000 tons, with all operations fully mechanized, with an output per man of 12 tons, and paying employees at an average hourly rate of $2.80, plus 40 cents per ton contribution for the miners' welfare fund. On the other hand, there are many truck mines operating with 20 or fewer workers, with operations only partly mechanized, with an output per man day of 4 tons, and paying employees at an average hourly rate of $1.00. Most of Virginia's coal is produced in mines operating between these two extremes.

Factors on the marketing side have favored Virginia coal in the past and promise to favor it in the future. No matter in which fields the coal originates, it is possible to ship it in any direction, and 92 per cent of Virginia mined coal leaves Southwest Virginia by rail. During 1954 more than 2.5 million tons was carried to Hampton Roads, and more than one million tons was sent to the lower Lake Erie ports. In addition, Virginia coal is delivered by rail to almost every state east of the Mississippi River.

The electric utility industry has become the principal consumer of coal mined in Virginia and the nation. Virginia shares with West Virginia and Kentucky the growing electric utility market in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. In 1953, the electric utilities in these three states purchased more than 8 million tons of coal, three times as much as was purchased seven years earlier. Part of the 5 million ton Detorit market falls to this state, and currently Virginia coal is being purchased for the TVA John Sevier plant which is expected to consume 1.5 million tons annually as of the spring of 1956.

Steel is another major market for Virginia coal. During 1953, more than 3 million tons of coal was shipped from Virginia mines to by-product coke ovens in other states, and approximately 300,000 tons was carbonized in beehive ovens in Wise County. The nation's steel output is expected to expand at an annual rate of from two to three per cent; and, barring any technological development which would make it possible to utilize noncoking coals in the manufacture of steel, this promises to be a moderately expanding market for Virginia coal.

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1956 Dog Tags must be secured before February 1, 1956 from the Office of the County Treasurer. If it is not convenient for you to come to the Treasurer's Office in person, they may be obtained by mail by stating the sex of the dog and sending amunt as follows:

Male	$ 1.00
Unsexed Female	1.00
Female	3.00
20-Dog Kennel	15.00
50-Dog Kennel	25.00

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